

Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 L-02 IO-10 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /055 W

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R 031545Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4380

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0141

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SF

SUBJECT: SASO/BPC DETAINEES IN COURT

REF: CAPE TOWN A-140, DECEMBER 23, 1974

1. TWELVE MEMBERS OF SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION (SASO) AND BLACK PEOPLE'S CONVENTION (BPC) WHO HAVE BEEN DETAINED (REFTEL) FOR UP TO FOUR MONTHS APPEARED IN PRETORIA MAGISTRATE'S COURT JAN 31. ALL WERE REMANDED IN CUSTODY UNTIL FEB 7 TO ENABLE THEM TO CONSULT ATTORNEYS. PRISONERS WERE NOT ASKED TO PLEAD AND NO EVIDENCE WAS SUBMITTED. FINAL TRIAL DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER (EMBASSY OFFICER WILL ATTEND TRIAL AS OBSERVER).

2. THOSE SASO/BPC DETAINEES APPEARING IN COURT WERE CHARGED UNDER TERRORISM ACT. THE TWELVE ARE: SATHS COOPER, J.E.L. (MUNTU) MYEZA, MOSIUAO G.P. LEKOTA, AUBREY MOKOAPE, MKWENKWE NKOMO, PANDELANI NEFOLOVHODWE, GILBERT K. SEDIBE, RUBIN HARE, STRINI MOODLEY, SADECQUE VANIAVA, ZITHULELE CINDI, AND SOLLY ISMAIL.

3. LAWYER I.M. AYOB APPEARED FOR DETAINEES AND TOLD MAGISTRATE P.J. BURGER THAT HE WOULD APPLY TO ATTORNEY

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GENERAL FOR THEIR RELEASE ON BAIL. AYOB ALSO ASKED IF

PRISONERS COULD BE KEPT IN CUSTODY IN SAME CELL, AS IS
NORMAL FOR PRISONERS AWAITING TRIAL. MAGISTRATE BURGER
DID NOT GRANT REQUEST.

4. NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN ANNOUNCED REGARDING APPROXIMATELY
26 OTHER DETAINEES WHO DID NOT APPEAR IN COURT. ONE
NEWSPAPER REPORTS THAT SECURITY BRANCH OFFICIAL SAID THESE
26 WILL APPEAR AS WITNESSES AGAINST TWELVE DETAINEES CHARGED.
HURD

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